OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 16, 2016

The Technical Planning Committee of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time of 1:30 p.m. in the OTO Conference Room.

The following members were present:

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| Mr. David Brock, City of Republic  Mr. Randall Brown, City of Willard  Ms. Paula Brookshire, City of Springfield (a)  Mr. King Coltrin, City of Strafford (Chair)  Mr. Travis Cossey, City of Nixa  Ms. Dawn Gardner, City of Springfield (a)  Mr. Adam Humphrey, Greene County  Mr. Tom Johnson, Missouri State University  Mr. Kirk Juranas, City of Springfield (Vice-Chair) | Mr. Frank Miller, MoDOT  Mr. Jason Ray, SMCOG  Ms. Beth Schaller, MoDOT  Mr. Kelly Turner, City Utilities Transit  Ms. Eva Voss, MoDOT  Mr. Todd Wiesehan, Christian County |

1. *Denotes alternate given voting privileges as a substitute when voting member not present*

The following members were not present:

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| Mr. Mokhtee Ahmad, FTA Representative  Mr. Rick Artman, Greene County Highway  Mr. David Bishop, R-12 School District  Mr. Justin Coyan, Springfield Chamber of Commerce  Mr. Nicholas Konen, BNSF  Mr. Bradley McMahon, FHWA  Mr. Kent Morris, Greene County Planning  Mr. Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark (a) | Mr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA Representative  Mr. Frank Schoneboon, City of Battlefield  Mr. Andrew Seiler, MoDOT  Mr. Jeremiah Shuler, FTA Representative  Ms. Mary Lilly Smith, City of Springfield  Ms. Janette Vomund, MoDOT  Mr. Terry Whaley, Ozark Greenways |

Others present were: Mr. David O’Connor, City of Willard; Mr. Dan Waddlington, Senator Blunt’s Office; Mr. Jeremy Pruett, Congressman Billy Long’s Office; Mr. Andy Mueller, MoDOT; Mr. Carl Carlson, Olsson Associates; Mr. Dave Faucett, Ms. Sara Fields, and Ms. Debbie Parks, Ozarks Transportation Organization, Brenda Cirtin.

Mr. King Coltrin, Technical Planning Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm.

* 1. **Administration**

1. **Introductions**
2. **Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Juranas moved to approve the November 16, 2016 meeting agenda. Mr. Cossey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

1. **Approval of the September 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Cossey moved to approve the September 21, 2016 meeting minutes. Mr. Wiesehan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

1. **Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items**

Ms. Fields stated there were some public comments included with the Agenda for the Committee’s review. There were no speakers present to address the Committee.

1. **Staff Report**

Ms. Fields noted that Andy Thomason with the OTO was not present at the meeting as he was attending a press event at the Traffic Management Center. The event is to advocate for Traffic Incident Management Week. She stated the Traffic Incident Management Sub-Committee devised a plan that discussed actions they would be working on to improve response times and clearance times. This would also include tracking information that would indicate now long a lane was blocked and how long it took to clear an accident scene. In addition, training would be provided so that all the different emergency responders could work well together.

1. **MoDOT Update**

Frank Miller updated the Committee on the Intersection Cost Share program, stating they are working on some agreements and hope to finalize them in the near future. He stated that the City of Springfield had requested some language regarding management of scope, so to ensure everyone has the same language, he is working to develop wording that addresses the concern and will be getting it out to the partners for their approval.

Eva Voss shared with the transitioning of the new Governor, MoDOT is planning on streamlining the TIP process so they will be asking the Governor for authority to approve the TIP and TIP Amendments. The Statewide Planning Partner meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2017. The agenda will be distributed at a later date. MoDOT is developing FAST lane applications for I-70 improvements and Merchant’s Ridge.

1. **Legislative Reports**

Dan Waddlington (Senator Blunt’s Office) reported that President-Elect Trump has advocated a couple of programs that Senator Blunt supports – one is repatriation of funds from overseas that would be used for transportation. He said the current administration liked this idea, but the two sides could never agree on how much money would be used. He does not believe this will be a stumbling block for the new Administration. The second program is a revolving loan fund that has a private sector segment included. Both would be used for highway, bridge, and transportation infrastructure that is expected to be passed next year. Mr. Waddlington indicated the new administration is going to be getting “stuff done.” He said he expects the new House and Senate to take quick action in the first 100 days to provide programs that are currently long-term that may be faster in the future.

Ms. Fields asked if Mr. Waddlington thought the new program would be handled the way it was under the current administration. He responded these would not be shovel-ready projects, but he would anticipate there would be more funds in the pipeline, but was not sure how quickly that would occur.

Jeremy Pruett (Representative Long’s Office) indicated he did not believe he could add anything to what Mr. Waddlington had said; just that they are all anxious to get started.

Mr. Juranas asked Mr. Waddlington if he believed earmarks would come back. He responded he did not know; they would like to see them return, but is not sure as one of the Missouri Senator’s is opposed to them.

1. **New Business**
   1. **Amendment Number Two to the FY 2017-2020 TIP**

Ms. Fields noted there are twenty changes to the TIP. She reviewed the amendments for the Technical Committee that had been included in the agenda packet.

As there were no questions from the Committee, Mr. Juranas moved to recommend approval of FY 2017-2020 TIP Amendment Number Two to the Board of Directors. Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. **Annual Listing of Obligated Projects**

Ms. Fields stated the OTO is required to publish a list of the obligated projects each year. She said this list must be published by December 1 and indicates the obligations for federal funding for the year. She said the federal fiscal year ends September 30, which is the reason this information was distributed at the meeting and not included in the agenda packet.

As there were no questions from the Committee, Mr. Cossey moved to recommend approval of the Annual Listing of Obligated Projects to the Board of Directors. Mr. Brown seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. **Federal Fund Balance Report**

Ms. Fields stated the OTO publishes the federal funds balance report twice a year so that everyone is aware of what the balance is. She noted one change this year is a name change for an existing program, but there does not appear to be any difference in funding. She indicated the Surface Transportation Program (STP) was renamed to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). The Bridge Rehabilitation and Maintenance Program (BRM) was ended by MoDOT, and this report is included. Once all monies had been allocated, it was determined there was a remaining balance of $18,000, so the OTO is working on a plan to utilize that. The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is also included in this report, which contains all the allocated funding through September 30. Ms. Fields noted that a projection for 2017 is included, but to date Congress has only allocated partial funding.

Ms. Fields said no action was needed at this time, and asked the Committee to review this report and let staff know of any inaccuracies.

* 1. **2017 DBE Program Goal**

Ms. Parks stated until 2014 MoDOT had set the OTO’s Disadvantaged Business Goal (DBE). Beginning in 2015, the OTO began to set their own program as it receives in excess of $250,000 in federal funds. She said that as part of that program, we update our DBE goal annually. She reviewed the information included in the agenda packet regarding the methodology of establishing the goal and the rules that must be incorporated in the selection. Ms. Parks stated there is not a high percentage of businesses in the Springfield area that are minority-owned. She said the OTO is recommending the DBE goal be set at 0% for this year. She reminded the Board that this is not a change and fits in with the methodology that MoDOT uses. She also stated that the OTO tries to use minority businesses whenever possible. Ms. Parks distributed a listing of the DBE businesses in the Springfield area.

Mr. Brock moved to recommend approval of the proposed annual DBE goal to the Board of Directors. Mr. Juranas seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. **Amendment Number Two to the FY 2017 UPWP**

Ms. Fields stated that the OTO had received notice that MoDOT was offering funding to update the Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. Ms. Fields said it had already been decided that this plan needed updating and therefore was adding this item. Ms. Fields brought the attention of the Committee to the revised handout that had been distributed. Ms. Fields noted the correct amount was $1,018,461. Ms. Fields said the plan is to conduct an assessment of human services transit that is available; conduct an assessment of the needs for citizens with low income; conduct all of the public participation for the development of the plan; and then update that plan for FAST Act compliance.

Mr. Ray (SMCOG) said that SMCOG had been notified by MoDOT of the potential for funding in this area and he hoped that the two plans could be consolidated or at least have some overlap with the use of demographic information.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Turner moved to recommend approval of FY2017 UPWP Amendment Two to the Board of Directors. Mr. Juranas seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. **2018-2022 STIP Priorities**

Ms. Fields said the OTO is recommending priorities to MoDOT for use in developing the 2018-2022 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. She said we do not have funding estimates at this time, but may possibly have that information in January. She said that a subcommittee has been working on this for several months and this is the list of the recommended projects. She said first and foremost is taking care of the system and that MoDOT must ensure that the current system is adequately maintained prior to considering any other type of project. She indicated that the second priority is safety needs, such as guardrails and intersection improvements at high-accident sites.

Following a review of the projects, Mr. Brown moved to recommend approval of the proposed 2018-2022 STIP project prioritization to the Board of Directors. Ms. Voss seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. **OTO Technical Committee 2017 Meeting Schedule**

Ms. Fields noted the schedule of meetings for the Technical Planning Committee for 2017 was included in the Agenda packet and requested each member to put these meetings on their calendars.

1. **Other Business**
   1. **Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements**

David Brock (Republic) noted that the City of Republic had recently completed a sidewalk inventory and had included it on the website for citizen review and comment.

Jeremy Pruett (Representative Long’s Office) said that Sara Fields had asked a question in a previous meeting about the Riverside Bridge in Ozark. He noted that they have written legislation to put this into flood reauthorization which will be in the Spring of next year.

Kelly Turner (City Utilities) stated there was a graduate student from Missouri State University that was doing some work with Northwest Project and Fairbanks School and she would like to perform a study on transit ridership. She indicated she was going to collect about 30 surveys; CU asked her to do more than that and offered some assistance. She agreed and collected data from about 120 respondents. On another note, on Monday, November 21, 2016, CU will open bids on the old transfer station located west of Park Central Square.

Kirk Juranas (Springfield) stated they are having a public meeting on November 17, 2016 to discuss the Jefferson Avenue Footbridge. The meeting will be held at White River Brewing Company on Commercial Street. He noted there are five different options for which they are seeking public input.

* 1. **Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Member Review**

Beth Schaller (MoDOT) noted that at the SMCOG meeting on November 16, 2016, they had placed the Hwy 60 and Hwy 125 intersection on their top priority list, but was unsure as to its exact ranking. Jason Ray (SMCOG) clarified that the number one priority was Route 60 from the OTO boundary to Monett; the interchange at Hwy 125 and Hwy 60 was number nine, which is right on the boundary. He said the second priority is a new interchange on I-44 at Marshfield.

Kirk Juranas (Springfield) said they are soliciting comments to send to MoDOT regarding their Hwy 65 project, which will be bid in March 2017, to replace pavement.

Frank Miller (MoDOT) clarified that MoDOT is going to rebuild the old lanes on Hwy 65; replacing the circuit 1969 concrete. MoDOT wants to resurface all the brand-new lanes along with the old lanes as it is not appropriate to asphalt some of Hwy 65 and not all of it. The decision was made to go back and replace the old concrete with new. This will shut down sections of Hwy 65 during this process. Mr. Juranas added this could take as much as two months for each direction; possibly starting with the north bound and then doing the south bound later in the season. The section being considered is from Kearney to Sunshine.

* 1. **Articles for Technical Planning Committee Member Information**

Mr. Coltrin noted several articles had been included in the agenda packet that staff believed would be of interest to the Committee.

**Adjournment**

With no additional business to come before the Committee, Mr. Juranas moved the meeting be adjourned at approximately 2:31 p.m. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.